Sports promotion in the country

2257. SHRI T.R. ZELIANG: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of financial assistance granted by Government to promote sports in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the details of the proposals formulated and likely to be implemented to promote sports in the country during the next three years; and

(c) the necessary efforts made by Government to promote sports in the country?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) 'Sports' is a State Subject under the Constitution and the promotion of Sports is mainly the responsibility of the State Governments and Sports Federations. However, the Government of India, directly and through schemes of the Sports Authority of India (SAI), augments the efforts of the State Governments and Federations in the promotion of sports. Financial assistance by the Government of India is not given State-wise but is provided against specific proposals under different schemes.

The Government of India runs the following schemes to promote and provide incentives for Sports Activities and Sportspersons in the country:

1. Scheme relating to Incentives for the Promotion of Sports Activities, which has the following components:
   (a) Sports Fund for Pension to Meritorious Sportspersons
   (b) Promotion of Sports and Games in Schools
   (c) Rural Sports Programme
   (d) Sports Scholarship Scheme
   (e) National Sports Development Fund
2. National Welfare Fund of Sportspersons.
3. Scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federations.
4. Assistance to Promising Sportsmen under the Scheme for Talent Search and Training.

5. National Sports Championship for Women
6. Scheme for State Sports Academies
7. The Government of India also gives awards under different schemes to individuals and institutions. These include the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Awards, Arjuna Awards, Dronacharya Awards, Dhyan Chand Award for Life Time Achievements in Sports and Games, Special Awards to Winners in International Sports Events and their Coaches and the Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Trophy for Universities.

In addition, the Sports Authority of India implements the following sports promotion schemes in the country:-

1. National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC)
2. Army Boys Sports Company (ABSC)
3. SAI Training Centre (STC)
4. Special Area Games (SAG) Scheme.
5. Centres of Excellence (COX).

National and State level sports bodies

2258. SHRI S.S AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government allocate funds to support the activities of National and State level sports bodies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government representatives are deputed in the Governing bodies of these sports organisations;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether Government are seized of the growing politicisation of National and State level sports bodies especially dealing with Football, Cricket and other popular games, and concerns of the youth, in particular, about the same;

(g) whether Government are contemplating steps to depoliticise sports bodies;